

January 31, 2006

CalWORKs Program Guide
Special Notice
06-03

Medi-Cal Program Guide
Special Notice
06-02

Food Stamp Program Guide
Special Notice
06-04

Subject	PROJECT EARN (EARNINGS, ADVANCEMENT, RETENTION, NOW) INFORMATIONAL MAILINGS
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Effective	Upon receipt.
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Purpose	The purpose of this Special Notice is to notify Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) staff about potential phone calls they may receive as a result of outreach and informational mailings (attached) about Project EARN that will be going out over the next several weeks.
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Background	Project EARN, a WASC (Work Advancement and Support Center) demonstration project, is an MDRC research study that seeks to increase low-income working families' and individuals' economic self-sufficiency by combining employment retention and career advancement services with the receipt of existing financial work supports (Food Stamps, Medi-Cal, child care subsidies, and EITC/Child Tax Credits).
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Ideally, the outcome will be for low-wage workers to increase their household incomes through earnings alone to the point that they no longer require financial work supports. The project intends to accomplish these goals through the partnership efforts of HHSA, San Diego Workforce Partnership, MDRC, and Arbor E&T, the operator of the South County Career Center where the project is located. The project mainly targets persons living in zip codes south of Freeway 94, with a couple of exceptions.

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HSS Action	In order to increase the number of participants in the program, Project EARN staff will be sending informational mailings over the next several weeks to current and recently active HHSA clients. Although these mailings will request potential participants to contact Project EARN staff at the South County Career Center, HHSA staff may receive calls about the mailing. HSSs and other staff should direct callers to Project EARN, (619) 429-1655. If clients call after hours, a message machine will take messages, and a Project EARN staff will call the person back when time permits.
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Automation Impact	None.
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CalWIN Impact	None.
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Forms Impact	None.
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Assistant Deputy Director	ORIGINAL SIGNED BY: DIANA FRANCIS Assistant Deputy Director Self Sufficiency Programs Regional Program Support Division
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DH

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